

Health Care Act. On September 21, the bill passed the House on suspension and I inadvertently voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, the Veterans Millennium Health Care Act is an important step forward toward addressing the health care needs of our Nation's veterans. For far too long the call for long-term care has gone unanswered. The bill establishes a long-term care benefit for any veteran with a 50-percent or greater disability.

It allows the Veterans Administration (VA) greater flexibility to adjust copayments for services like eyeglasses and pharmaceuticals. The legislation enables the VA to cover the emergency care of uninsured veterans and directs them to realign inefficient facilities provided the savings are reinvested locally in the community to improve veterans' care.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2116 has the strong support of the veterans community and I am proud to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 1999

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, last week, a death in my family resulted in my missing four rollcall votes—466, 467, 468 and 469—on Friday, October 1. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall 466—On agreeing to the conference report, H.R. 2084, Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act FY 2000—"yea"; rollcall 467—On agreeing to the resolution waiving points of order against the Conference Report on H.R. 1906, Agriculture and Related Agencies Appropriations Act FY 2000—"nay"; rollcall 468—Motion to Recommit the Conference Report on H.R. 1906, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations, FY 2000—"yea"; rollcall 469—On agreeing to the Conference Report, H.R. 1906, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations, FY 2000—"yea."

A TRIBUTE TO DR. HANAN ASHRAWI AND PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life's work to peace in the Middle East and who will share her story at the Eleventh Annual Grand Banquet of the Greater Toledo Association of Arab-Americans on October 16, 1999. As a daughter of Ramallah, she is considered by many in northwest Ohio from El-Bireh as a sister, part of their families.

Dr. Hanan Ashrawi has been the human face of the Palestinians. As the official spokesperson for the Palestinian delegation to the

Middle East peace process, she has told the world the story of her people, the pain they have felt and their hopes for the future. Her passion and her commitment to her people and to peace have led some to call her one of the most influential women of the 20th century.

Her dedication to peace can be traced to the influence of her parents. When she was a child, her father told her to "be daring in the pursuit of the right." She has taken the words to heart.

In fact, it was her father's dedication to the written word that has had a lasting effect on Dr. Ashrawi. She is a woman of letters: a poet, a playwright, an author, and a professor of English. She sees the power that words hold—the power of ideas.

Dr. Ashrawi sees peace as based on the sanctity of human rights, especially the rights of women. She helped to found the Jerusalem Center for Women and works with many groups across the globe, including the Palestine Center for Human Rights; the Carter Center and the Fund for the Future of Our Children.

John Foster Dulles once said "You have to take chances for peace, just as you must take chances in war * * *." Dr. Ashrawi is not one who has been afraid to take chances—to reach out for compromise, to lend her voice for her people, and to be a strong woman.

Mr. Speaker, our nation was built on the principle of freedom of the people. We have an obligation as the world's harbinger of freedom to work with those dedicated to this principle as well. I congratulate Dr. Ashrawi on her life's work of freedom and peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Friday, October 1, and as a result missed rollcall votes 466 through 469.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 466, "no" on rollcall 467, "yes" on rollcall 468, and "no" on rollcall 469.

HONORING A HOOSIER HERO: MICHAEL BLAIN

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 1999

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate one of Indiana's finest, Michael Blain, who is being awarded the Star of Peace and Hope Award for 25 years of superb service to the Jewish Community of Indianapolis and the State of Israel.

Michael Blain's story is an inspiration to us all. He is a man of great strength, courage, and devotion. Not only is he a Holocaust survivor, but he served his country in the Korean War. He is a real Hoosier Hero.

Michael is very deserving of the Star of Peace and Hope Award. Twenty-five years ago Michael joined Israel-Bonds. Since that time, Michael can be credited with generating more than \$100 million in investment capital for Israel's economy. This money has helped make modern Israel the high-tech jewel of the Middle-Eastern economy. Here at home, Michael has been instrumental in helping Jews from the former Soviet Union and other trouble spots settle in Indiana. His work has made this traumatic move as comfortable as possible for these struggling families. As a result of Michael's work, Indiana's culture is more diverse and dynamic.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, I am glad that you are able to join me in saying thank you to Michael Blain and congratulate him on winning the Star of Peace and Hope Award. Michael has made an unmeasurable contribution to the people of Israel and Indiana. He is a true Hoosier hero.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 5, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 6

9 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to review public policy related to biotechnology, focusing on domestic approval process, benefits of biotechnology and an emphasis on challenges facing farmers to segregation of product.

SR-328A

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on S. 1510, to revise the laws of the United States appertaining to United States cruise vessels.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Judiciary

Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine fiber terrorism on computer infrastructure.

SD-226

October 4, 1999

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine United States support for the peace process and anti-drug efforts in Colombia.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the conduct of the NATO air campaign in Yugoslavia.

SD-419

Judiciary

To hold hearings on S. 1455, to enhance protections against fraud in the offering of financial assistance for college education.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the nomination of Skila Harris, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for the remainder of the term expiring May 18, 2005; the nomination of Glenn L. McCullough, Jr., of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority; and the nomination of Gerald V. Poje, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

OCTOBER 7

9 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to review public policy related to biotechnology, focusing on domestic approval process, benefits of biotechnology and an emphasis on challenges facing farmers to segregation of product.

SR-328A

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To resume hearings to examine certain clemency issues for members of the Armed Forces of National Liberation.

SD-226

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on S. 188, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize the use of State revolving loan funds for construction of water conservation and quality improvements; S. 968, to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to make grants to State agencies with responsibility for water source development, for the purposes of maximizing the available water supply and protecting the environment through the development of alternative water sources; and S. 914, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require that discharges from combined storm and sanitary sewers conform to the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Governmental Affairs

International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine guidelines for the relocation, closing, consolidation or construction of Post Offices.

SD-608

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

Judiciary

To hold hearings on pending nominations.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1183, to direct the Secretary of Energy to convey to the city of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, the former site of the NIPER facility of the Department of Energy; and S. 397, to authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish a multiagency program in support of the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative to promote energy efficient, environmentally sound economic development along the border with Mexico through the research, development, and use of new materials.

SD-366

OCTOBER 12

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 167, to extend the authorization for the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council and to authorize construction and operation of a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, New York and Pennsylvania; S. 311, to authorize the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs; S. 497, to designate Great Kills Park in the Gateway National Recreation Area as "World War II Veterans Park at Great Kills"; H.R. 592, to redesignate Great Kills Park in the Gateway National Recreation Area as "World War II Veterans Park at Great Kills"; S. 919, to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor; H.R. 1619, to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor; S. 1296, to designate portions of the lower Delaware River and associated tributaries as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; S. 1366, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River on land owned by the New York State; and S. 1569, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

SD-366

OCTOBER 13

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the force structure impacts on fleet and strategic lift operations.

SR-222

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1507, to authorize the integration and consolidation of alcohol and substance programs and services provided by Indian tribal governments.

SR-485

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on numerous tax treaties and protocols.

SD-419

OCTOBER 14

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1218, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface and mineral estates of certain lots; S. 610, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming; S. 1343, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest land to Elko County, Nevada, for continued use as a cemetery; S. 408, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a former Bureau of Land Management administrative site to the City of Carson City, Nevada, for use as a senior center; S. 1629, to provide for the exchange of certain land in the State of Oregon; and S. 1599, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with Black Hills National Forest.

SD-366

OCTOBER 19

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1365, to amend the National Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; S. 1434, to amend the National Historic Preservation Act to reauthorize that Act; and H.R. 834, to extend the authorization for the National Historic Preservation Fund.

SD-366

OCTOBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the use of performance enhancing drugs in Olympic competition.

SR-253

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for elementary and secondary education assistance, focusing on Indian educational programs.

SR-285

OCTOBER 26
9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change.

SD-366

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Real Property Management Program and the maintenance of the historic homes and senior officers' quarters.

SR-222

OCTOBER 27

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Transportation Equity Act in the 21st Century, focusing on Indian reservation roads.

SR-485

POSTPONEMENTS

OCTOBER 6

3 p.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

OCTOBER 7

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings on the security of the Panama Canal.

SD-106